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# LAMENTABLE DISCOURSE, VPON

The paricide and bloudy assassinati-  
on : committed on the Person of  
HENRY the fourth, (of famous me-  
morie) King of FRANCE and  
NAVARRE.

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A LAMENTABLE  
DISCOURSE VPON THE  
PARRICIDE AND BLOVDIE

is a *massination* committed on the person  
of HENRY the fourth of famous memory,

*King of France and of  
Navarre.*



T is not the property of  
greatest sorowes, to speak  
much, for teares & heart-  
breaking sighes are fittest  
demonstrations to de-  
clare the greatest passi-  
ons; which maketh mee expresse in fewe  
words, the great griefe, and publique sor-  
row, France at this time suffereth: knowe  
then, and let posterity euer lament, that last  
Friday, the foureteenth daye of May: the  
next day after the sacring, and coronation  
of the Queene: our great Henry (of most  
famous memory) King of France and Na-



(2.)

uarre, beeing at Paris about three of the clocke in the after noone, intended to goe to his Arcenall: tooke his Caroch, and as a Prince which liued without feare or suspicion of his people, passed through the City, accompanied with fewe of his Nobilitie; without taking for his better assurance, either Archers, or any of his vsuall Gard.

But milchiefe, or rather our finnes procured, that an accursed and execrable assassinne named *Francis Rauaillart*, borne in Angoulesme, approached his person, not farre from S. Innocents; where seeing his Maiesties Carochie stayed by a Cart, which met and stopped their passage; taking opportunity, assaulted with most hellish fury this good King, with a long knife, made of purpose; with which hee gaue him two wounds in the left side: the first was giuen nigh the shoulder, which entered not farre, but onely rased the skinne; the second was mortall, the blowe entering berwixt the fift and sixt rib, cut asunder the veine leading to the heart; and the wound was so deepe,

deepe, that it reached into the *Cava Vena*, which was pierced with the point of the knife. The Prince finding himselfe wounded to death, left vpon the instant his speech, by reason of the abundance of bloud, which issued out of his mouth, therefore they turned the caroch to the Louu're, where hee was no sooner arriued, but hee rendred his soule into the hands of Almighty God; testifying with his eyes and hands lifted vpto heaven, that hee died a true Christian and good Catholique: My Lord the Archbishop of Ambrun, doing the last seruice of a Church-man, exhorted him in this last action.

Is it not now a wonder to the Christian world, to see France a second Affrike, breeding such detestable mōsters? What shame doth this age breede to that of our forefathers? What disastre that a king of France should not escape the rage & fury of a cut-throat villaine his owne subiect? Wicked villaine, thou hast bereaued vs of this great Prince, whō we lamēt with teares, & whose losse we shall euer feele. Thou thoughtest  
in

in thy damnable designe to swallow vs vp  
in a gulse of misery and desolation. but  
God in his goodnesse hath relieved vs, and  
otherwise disposed the hearts and affecti-  
ons of the French, then thou in thy frenzie  
diddest imagine, or the hellish counsell of  
Sathan suggest. The darke prison where-  
in thou art iustly enclosed, where new tor-  
ments are inuented and prepared to cha-  
stise thy offence, will not let thee see, how  
that for all thy wicked act, all things re-  
maine cōstant in the same tranquility they  
were before. It is to Gods grace alone we  
owe the thanks, yet denie not due praise to  
those instrumētts he hath vouchsafed to vs:  
for the Lords Officers of the Crowne, this  
famous Court of Parliament, the Magi-  
strats of Paris, haue al with one heart & cō-  
mō consent, succored & assured the estate;  
so that there is not any shew of commoti-  
on or sedition amongst this great people:  
Resolution and modestie, which maketh  
the Parisians much to be commended, and  
serueth as an example to all the other Pro-  
uinces



(5.)

uinces of the Realme.

Thou (I say) canst not see how in the same houre of thy horrible attempt, all the Nobility ran to the Louu're : offering, and protesting their fidelity : thou seest not though the father be taken away, the sonne is left vs, to succcede in gouernment, yong though he be, yet shall he be strengthened with the sage aduise of great Princes, & the Queene his mother, who amidst her great griefes will remember the common good; and hath vouchsafed for our comfort to accept the Regencie, and gouernment of the kingdome. In the preséce of the Princes Peeres, the Constable, the Chancelour, the Cardinals, the Marshals of France, & other the great officers of the State, all assembled in the great Chamber of the Pallace, with authority of the Court of Parliament, his lawfull successour sitting in his throne, was solemnly acknowledged, and proclaimed king of France the fiftenth of May.

In summe, this young Prince is so worthily brought vp, in the loue, and feare of

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God

God with all other vertues, which serue to the ornament of a great king, that treading in the foote steps of the late king his father, hee will cherish Religion, loue Iustice, be generous, meeke, affable, gracious, and shine in a full lustre as a faire sunne ouer all France. All things shall flourish vnder his raigne, his people shall blesse him, & with fixed eyes to heauen, shall pray God for his happy preservation.

Thus now we see, this Prince happily established, so well maintained, with force of armes, aduise of Councell, and loue of his subiects: that it shall be in vaine, for any to dare to stir without receiuing condigne chastisemēt: since then the entry to his kingdom is so blessed, and seconded with the fauours of heauen, let vs not prouoke the anger of God, by our euill demeanors; let vs so behaue our selues, that amongst all the French, onely this assasine be detested, and held in abomination amongst strangers, let vs remember that as there is nothing that raiseth tempests at Sea, but  
con.



contrary winds, so nothing that troubleth a state but disunion. if our owne iudgment and capacitie cannot instruct vs, yet let the schoole of reason teach vs, let vs consider that in a humane body, there is an head, and vnder that head many noble parts, that the member that is destined to one seruice, dareth not exercise another office, the legs will not be the armes, nor the lunges the hart, likewise in a well ordered estate, one is acknowledged for head, & giueth life to all the other members, which worke nor mooue but vnder his authority, so that euery one acquitting himselfe of his dutie: by a good vnion and correspondence, kingdomes are conserued & of small ones become great: whereas contrarywise by disunion and iars, great ones haue beene ruinated, and come to nothing.

Remember you French men: that it is aboue 1200. yeres, since the kingdome of France, hath bin reuerenced for one of the greatest Monarchies in the world, tak heed

that posterity do not reproach vs, that the  
 ruine of it happened in our age: And that  
 by our rage we haue demolished, that which  
 our auncestors haue raised by their wise-  
 domes and valours: and if the publicke in-  
 terest money you not, let euery one at least  
 bethinke himselfe of his owne particular.  
 we are all embarked in one vessell, if it pe-  
 rish, it will bee a great maruell if any of vs  
 escape: we are all in one house, if that fall  
 we shall all be ouerwhelmed in the ruynes:  
 Let vs not forget, that we are yet wet with  
 our last ship wracke, that it is not many  
 yeeres, since we were freed from ciuill wars:  
 the desolation wherof neuer comes alone,  
 but is alwaies attended with plague, fa-  
 mine, and all other sort of calamities, as the  
 losse of our goods, and estates, the impri-  
 sonment and ransoming of our bodies,  
 the sacke and spoile of our Cities, the ra-  
 uishing of our wiues, & daughters, & the  
 bloody death of our children. Let vs know  
 that experience is the mistresse of fooles, let  
 vs not waite to repent of the mischief, af-  
 ter

ter we haue felt the smart by our folly:  
Wee are now in peace, let vs continue  
preserued, and seeke to maintaine it by the  
helpe of God. Let vs not beelike forcerers,  
and Magitians, which causer and thun-  
der by their charmes, cōtrary to the course  
of Nature: mischiefes, and miseries come  
but too soone, let vs not prouoke them, or  
goe to meete them.

You great ones which haue the charge  
and gouernment of the kingdome, in the  
name of God, haue no other obiekt before  
your eyes, but the good and seruice of your  
King, aboue all the disunion, which like a  
wicked Counsaillour seeking to ruine o-  
thers, ouerthrowes it selfe, assure your  
selues, the greatnes of the estate, is the great-  
nes of your owne, her tranquillity and esta-  
blishment, is the base and foundation of  
your owne families. Study not who shall  
ouerthrow his companion, but who shall  
best & most faithfully serue his Country;  
it is onely the property of weake and shal-  
low men, to flesh themselves with enuie,



rancour, and dissimulation; carie you all your hearts in your faces: loue one another that you may the better serue one Master: It shall be your prosperity, and doubt not but that in a state there are more good the wicked, and that there was neuer any mutinous or factious, but in the end was curbed by the authority of his Soueraigne.

You haue at this day a king redoubtable, ouer whose person the eye of the diuine prouidēce doth so watch, that though he be yet young, hee shall not be the lesse obeyed or feared throughout all his kingdom: the Edicts of the late king his father, shall be obserued as his owne: you shall haue him a common father ouer his people.

It is said that *Alexander*, made no distinction betwixt Greeke and Barbarian, but only by their vertues, not resting vpon the difference of their habite: So our king shall iudge who are good and bad French men, onely by the marke of their obedience, and fidelity; euery one shall haue part of his  
grace,

grace and fauour, as he shall make himselfe worthy by his seruice.

In such sort, that all things beeing so firmly established within the Realme, we shall not haue cause to feare any danger from without: the king is in peace with his neighbours, and we assure our selues there is none of them, but is so good and generous, that he doth deplore this sinister accident, happened to the late king, & though he had, before the death of this Prince, designed & means to endamage France, he doth now turne his hate into loue, moued onely by commiseration of this disaster: And if we may now hope for this tenderesse of heart from Princes, which be strangers, what ought we to expect from those who are naturally borne French? God for his mercy inspire France with so much of his grace, that not wanting counsell, true and lawfull commaund, wee may render that obedience and submission, which good and loyall subiects, owe vnto their Soueraigne.

*Pelletier.*

*FIN IS.*